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region of the inclined plateau such that the temperature of the said alloy can be brought to the above high temperature (T2) whereby at least part of the occluded hydrogen will be made desorbable during the low-pressure plateau region in the above-mentioned two-stage plateau or the lower plateau region of the inclined plateau.

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13. (Amended) The method for absorbing and releasing hydrogen according to claim 10, wherein the tissue structure of the above-mentioned suitably adjusted hydrogen storage metal alloy is of a body-centered cubic structure mono phase without any spinodal decomposition phase or has a body-centered cubic structure together with only a minimum spinodal decomposition phase which is unavoidably produced.

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16. (Amended) The hydrogen fuel battery according to claim 14, wherein the above-mentioned temperature controlling means is arranged so as to enable the heat discharged from the above-mentioned fuel battery cell or the exhaust gas discharged from the said fuel battery cell to be utilized for the above-mentioned heating.

Please add new claims 17-22 reading as follows:

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--17. The method for absorbing and releasing hydrogen according to claim 8, wherein the composition ratio of the constituent metals for the alloy is adjusted to an appropriate range in order to reduce the stability of the hydrogen occluded in the alloy during the low-pressure plateau region or the lower plateau region of the inclined plateau such that the temperature of the said alloy can be brought to the above high temperature (T2) whereby at least part of the occluded hydrogen will be made desorbable during the low-pressure plateau region in the above-mentioned two-stage plateau or the lower plateau region of the inclined plateau.

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